

Social Sciences and Humanities Platform

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Overview

The Social Sciences and Humanities Platform project (SSH Platform) consists of the creation of a prototype platform dedicated to Social Sciences and Humanities titles. Its aim is to enrich the experience of researching titles, increasing the accessibility and interest in both the backlist and front-list.

The platform should make the research experience deeper and broader, using:

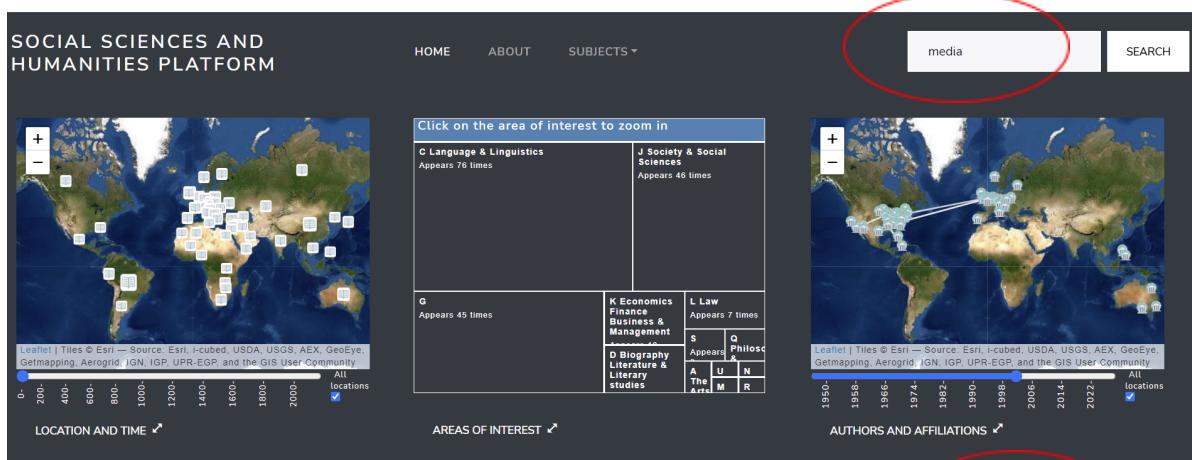
- The enrichment and polishing of the metadata,
- the increased indexability and overview information of the titles,
- the interactive visualizations in the search results.

The search

At the current state of the prototype, a search box can be found on the top right of the landing page (element 1 in image below). Using this box, one can search into all the titles published by Peter Lang. The search can be a word as well as a full sentence or a couple of words. The top 250 relevant titles are displayed based on the titles whose *Title*, *Subtitle*, *Main Description*, *Author's Biography*, *Index terms* and *Most important terms*¹ contain the search phrase (entirely or with small typos).

For example, we can search for the word 'media'. The result page looks as follows:

¹ These last two will be discussed further in the section 'The title pages'.



This screenshot shows the search results page. On the left, there are several filter sections: 'Year' (with years 2018, 2013, 2019, 2020, 2011), 'Authors' (with names Merskin Debra L., López Antonio, Share Jeff, Logan Robert K., Macnamara Jim), 'Version' (with options E-Book, Paperback, Hardback), and 'Subject Group' (with Media & Communication). In the center, there is a list of search results. The first result is for 'CRITICAL MEDIA ANALYSIS: AN INTRODUCTION FOR MEDIA PROFESSIONALS' by Stocchetti Matteo / Kukkonen Karin, published on 2012-04-26. It includes an abstract and a link to 'GREENING MEDIA EDUCATION: BRIDGING MEDIA LITERACY WITH GREEN CULTURAL CITIZENSHIP'. A red circle highlights the 'Sort by' dropdown menu at the top right of the results list, which currently says 'RELEVANCE'.

There are three visualizations on top of the search page. On the bottom of the page, one can see the search results (on the right) and filters (on the left).

The search results (the list of resulting titles with their metadata) are used to generate the three visualizations and the filters.

The filters are made as follows: the 5 most recurrent entries in the fields *Year*, *Authors*, *Version*, *Subject group*, *Division*, *Language* appear for each field. As an example, if we have 250 titles in the results, 50 of which are from the year 2018, 21 from 2013, 20 from 2019, 10 from 2020, 8 from 2011 and 5 from 2002 and 3 from 2000 etc, we will use only the first 5 as possible filters (element 2 in image above) for the filter *Year*.

The results are listed one after the other in order of *Relevance* (based on how similar the search term is to the information on the title). This can be changed to *Date*, from most recent to least, selecting the option *Date* after *Sort by* (element 3 in image).

The visualizations

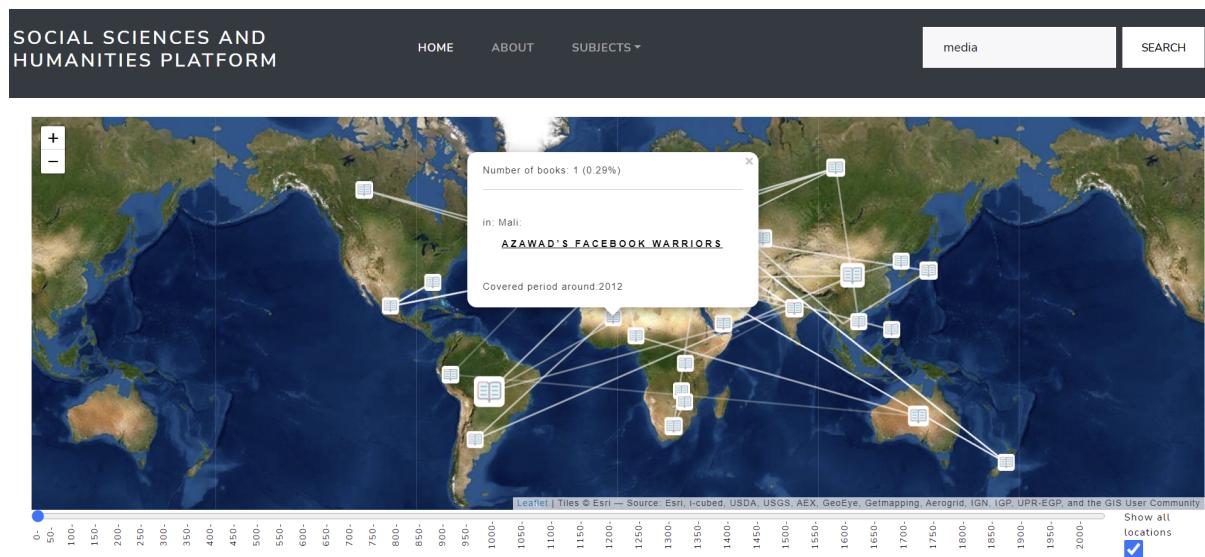
The three visualizations are meant to give an overview, at first glance, of the search results. This overview is slightly different from the one we are used to. Normally, a user would scroll through the search results, reading their Title, Subtitle and, often, Description and basing the choice of which book select on this information. In this prototype, each visualization offers one or a few original factors to gather information from and base the choice on. Seeing each visualization as a whole should also encourage users to make connections between books and determine general trends among them.

The metadata for each visualization has been extracted from different fields such as *Main Description* and *Author's Biography* when we did not already have it in the metadata (i.e. *Location*, *Time Period*, *Affiliation*)

Time and Place Visualization

The first visualization places attention on the period and geographical area that the books talk about. This visualization allows seeing both the temporal and spatial coverage of the books in the search results (in this case, the results for 'media'). It also allows immediately finding a title on 'media' about a specific time or place.

For instance, zooming into the first visualization and clicking on the icon in Mali we see this title:



After the click, we see both the place (Mali), the title and the year (around 2012²). If one is interested in this title, with a click, we can immediately go to the page dedicated to that title:

- Keen Azawad's Facebook Warriors
- Benoit & Glantz President Campaigns
- George Klay Kieh Jr. The First Liberian Civil War
- Morival Les Europes du Patronat français
- Schwerner Lebanon
- O'Connor Sean Keating in Context
- Fuchs KOMMUNALE FLUCHTLINGSPOLITIK

AZAWAD'S FACEBOOK WARRIORS

THE MNLA SOCIAL MEDIA AND THE MALIAN CIVIL WAR

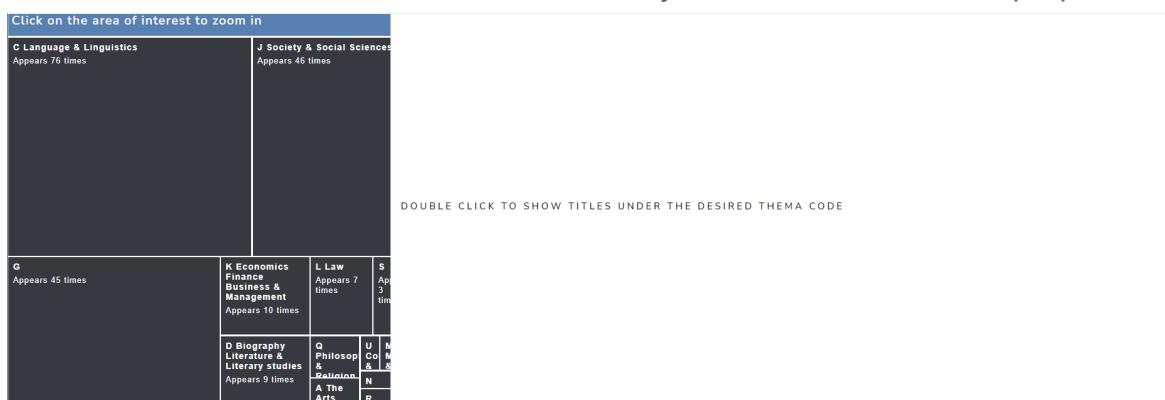
In January 2012 the National Movement for the Liberation of Azawad (MNLA) a group dominated by members of the Tuareg ethnic group launched a military uprising seeking the independence of Mali's vast but sparsely populated north as the democratic secular nation-state of Azawad. Azawad's Facebook Warriors tells the extraordinary story of a small group of social media activists who sought to broadcast the MNLA's cause to the world. Azawad's Facebook Warriors offers a groundbreaking new study of the MNLA's use of social media through the original analysis of more than 8000 pro-MNLA Facebook posts published over a four-year period and interviews with key architects of the MNLA's media strategy. The book further places the MNLA's social media activism in context through a nuanced treatment of northern Mali's history and an unparalleled blow-by-blow account of the MNLA's role in the Malian civil war from 2012 through 2015. More broadly through the case study of the MNLA the book argues that studying rebel social media communications a field that has until now unfortunately received scant scholarly attention will prove an increasingly important tool in understanding rebel groups in coming years and decades.

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Scrolling through the description, we see that the title is indeed about the Malian war from 2012 to 2015 and social media (element 4 in image).

Thema Visualization

The second visualization, on the other side, uses the THEMA code to provide an overview of what research areas are covered by the results and in what proportion.



The visualization allows navigating through the hierarchical index and seeing the subcategories of each THEMA. Once the subcategory of interest is found, double-clicking shows the results under that category (and its subcategories). For instance, if one is interested in 'media' books about *semantics*, the following is the

² This means that the title could also be found when clicking on 2000 in the timeline.

list of titles:

SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES PLATFORM

HOME ABOUT SUBJECTS ▾ media SEARCH

CF Linguistics - Click here to zoom out

CFG Semantics discourse analysis stylistics
Appears 3 times

MEDIA REPRESENTATION OF MIGRANT WORKERS IN CHINA

THEMA CODE: SEMANTICS DISCOURSE ANALYSIS STYLISTICS

CARRYING A TORCH

THEMA CODE: SEMANTICS DISCOURSE ANALYSIS STYLISTICS

IMPOLITENESS IN MEDIA DISCOURSE

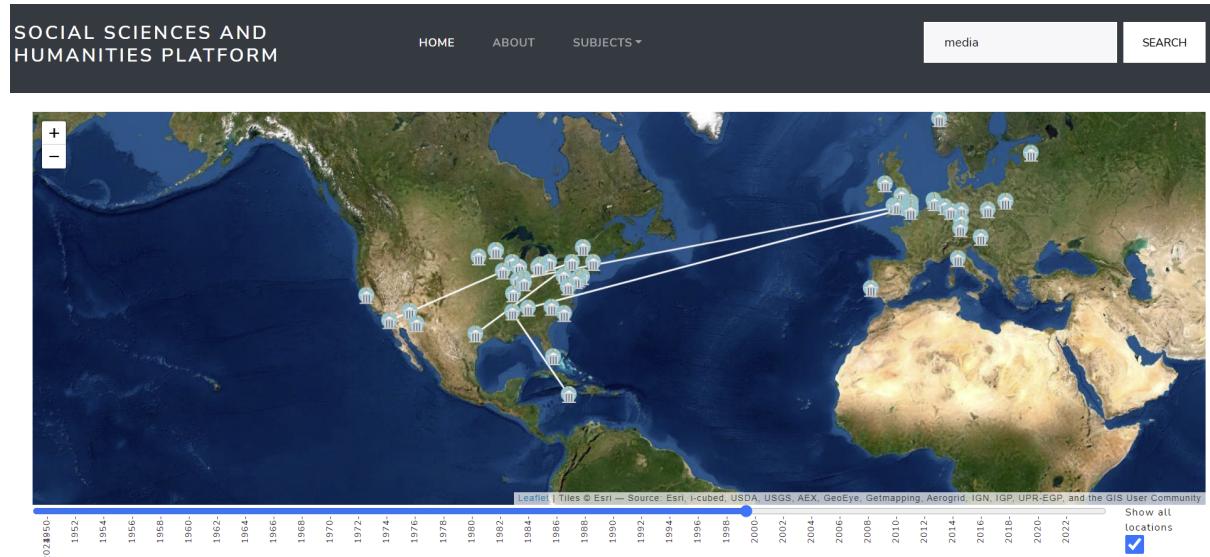
THEMA CODE: SEMANTICS DISCOURSE ANALYSIS STYLISTICS

CFP Translation & interpretation
Appears 1 times

The titles can again be clicked to go to the dedicated page.

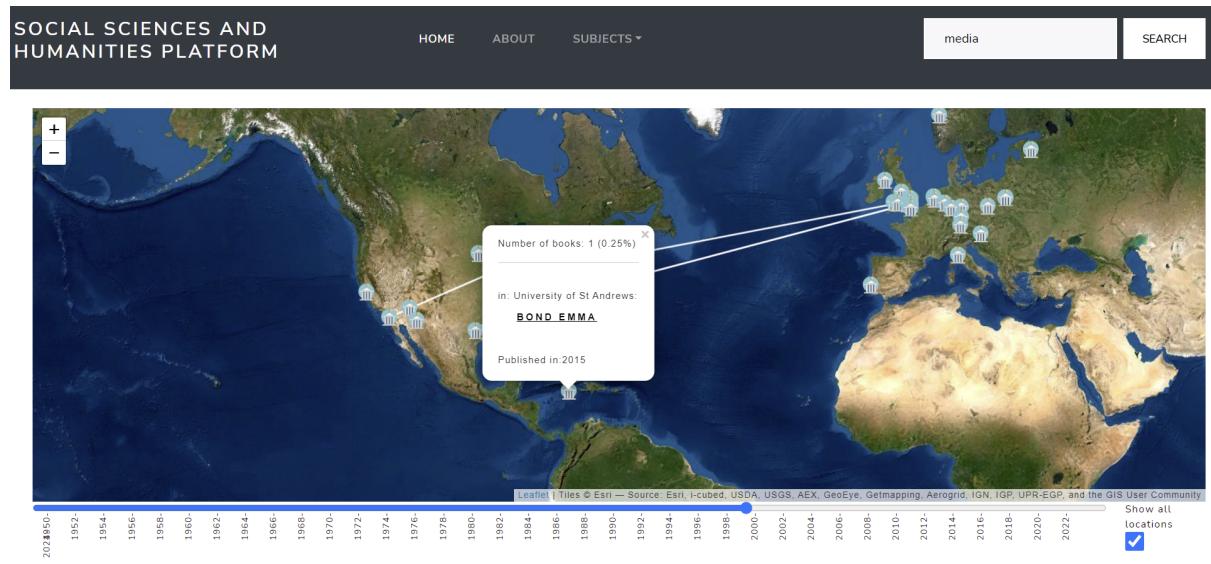
Affiliation and Publication Date Visualization

Finally, the last visualization shows the distribution of affiliations³ of the authors that have published books on 'media'. It also orders books by publication date (scrolling on the timeline). This gives an overview of what affiliations have been publishing most, in what period, about this topic. In particular, it gives an immediate overview of the geographical coverage of the affiliations (potentially showing the bias in PL towards EU and US). It also allows seeing when authors from different locations have worked together on a book. This is shown by a white line between the locations.



³ universities, colleges, centres, institutions

When clicking on a specific icon that has a line connecting it to other titles, we see the author(s) affiliated with that icon.



Clicking on the author, we go to the book published by that author and we can see the various other authors and affiliations of that book:

Published in: 2015-03-26

DESTINATION ITALY
REPRESENTING MIGRATION IN CONTEMPORARY MEDIA AND NARRATIVE
ISBN: 9783035395136
Author - Series Editor: Bond Emma, Bonsaver Guido, Faloppa Federico,

Word Clouds **Summary** **Table of Contents** **Overview** **References**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Published by: Peter Lang UK

Aquisition Editor: Plapp Laurel (UK)

Author - Series Editor: Bond Emma, Bonsaver Guido, Faloppa Federico.

Affiliated with: University of St Andrews, University of Oxford, University of Reading. 5

Division: Edited Collection

Language: English

Subject group: Other

New Subject group: Cultural Studies.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- [Pallister French-Speaking Women Documentarians](#)
- [Quaghebeur Violence et Vérité](#)
- [Giné La recepción del extranjero](#)
- [Abercassis Écarts et apports des médias](#)
- [Burns Migrant Imaginaries](#)
- [Vidal Claramonte Traducción y asimetría](#)
- [Candela CASISTICHE IDEOLOGICHE TRA POLITICA](#)
- [Kimmich Mythos Stadt - Stadtmythen](#)
- [Gsteiger Die Schweiz von Westen](#)
- [Ertler Ave Maris Stella](#)

In this case, the authors are Bond Emma, Bonsaver Guido, and Faloppa Federico which are affiliated, in order, with Uni St. Andrews, Uni Oxford and Uni of Reading (something might have gone wrong in the recognition of this last university's name) (element 5 in image).

The title pages

Now that we discussed the visualizations, we can focus on the dedicated book pages. Here, when a digitized version was available, the metadata about each book has been enriched with information extracted from the full text.

To find the enriched pages, we can filter by 'E-book' Version and click on some of the resulting titles:

The screenshot shows a digital book page for 'MAKING MEDIA STUDIES'. At the top left is a small thumbnail of the book cover. To its right, the publication details are listed: 'Published in: 2014-03-01', 'MAKING MEDIA STUDIES', 'THE CREATIVITY TURN IN MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS STUDIES', 'ISBN: 9781454198062', and 'Author - Series Editor: Gauntlett David,'. Below these details are five navigation links: 'Word Clouds', 'Summary' (which is highlighted in a light gray box), 'Table of Contents', 'Overview', and 'References'. On the right side of the page, there is a large red circle drawn around a section titled 'RECOMMENDATIONS'. Inside the circle, a numbered list item '6' is visible above a bulleted list of book titles: 'Gauntlett Making Media Studies', 'Bounds Recharting Media Studies', 'Lenders Medienwissenschaft', 'Hausken Thinking Media Aesthetics', 'Matzker Medienwissenschaft Teil 5 Fiktion', 'Kalyango Jr. Why Discourse Matters', and 'Booth Digital Fandom'. The rest of the page content is visible outside the red circle.

Recommendations

The first thing we can see on this title page are the recommendations on the top right (element 6 in image). These are books with similar Main Description to the one of the book of interest. Clicking on the second recommendation, we redirected to this title:



Published in: 2008-11-05

RECHARTING MEDIA STUDIES

ESSAYS ON NEGLECTED MEDIA CRITICS

ISBN: 9783039110155

Author - Series Editor: Bounds Philip, Jagmohan Mala,

Word Clouds

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RECOMMENDATIONS

- Lahrmann SHAKESPEARE-INSZENIERUNGEN IN ENGLAND
- Counts COMING HOME
- Jaron DEMOKRATISCHE ZEITALTER D. SPAETEN 20ER
- Weitz For the Sake of Sanity
- Parilla THEORY FOR READING DRAMATIC TEXTS
- Mahsberg THEATERSEMIOTIK UND THEATERGESCHICHTE
- Lange THEATER IN DEUTSCHLAND NACH 1945
- Graham SAM SHEPARD
- Howe Individuality and Expression
- Kahler Filmproduzent Ludwig Waldleitner

RECHARTING MEDIA STUDIES

ESSAYS ON NEGLECTED MEDIA CRITICS

Scholars in Media Studies increasingly take the view that our understanding of the history of the discipline is deeply inadequate. It is now widely recognised that a large number of important media analysts have simply been omitted from the standard histories. This book aims to fill in some of the gaps by examining the work of eleven neglected writers each of whom has made a seminal contribution to the analysis of the media but whose work rarely appears in student textbooks anthologies and readers. In keeping with the interdisciplinary ambitions of contemporary Media Studies the selected thinkers are drawn from a wide range of historical periods and intellectual backgrounds. There are chapters on sociologists creative writers cultural theorists art critics journalists and even ancient Greek philosophers. The aims of the book are by no means purely antiquarian. The contributors believe that a revival of interest in the work of their chosen writers can go a long way towards revitalising Media Studies especially by (1) drawing attention to a variety of theoretical and methodological approaches which have yet to be adequately exploited (2) suggesting new areas of research and (3) transforming our understanding of the historical development of Media Studies.

Indeed, we can see that this seems rather similar to the first one. The suggestions are agnostic of the language. In fact, if we click on the first suggested title from this page, we find a title in German.



SHAKESPEARE-INSZENIERUNGEN IN ENGLAND- DIE «ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY» (1960-1982)

DIE ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY (1960-1982)

ISBN: 9783631404096

Author - Series Editor: Lahrmann Hartwig, Universität Münster,

Word Clouds

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SHAKESPEARE-INSZENIERUNGEN IN ENGLAND- DIE «ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY» (1960-1982)

DIE ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY (1960-1982)

Ausgangspunkt der vorliegenden Arbeit ist die unterschiedliche Behandlung von dramatischer Literatur in der Literaturwissenschaft und im Theater des englisch- und deutschsprachigen Raums. Am Beispiel der Royal Shakespeare Company wird gezeigt inwieweit Ergebnisse der Shakespeare-Forschung ihren Eingang in die Shakespeare-Rezeption des Theaters gefunden haben. Die Inszenierungsgeschichte der Dramen Shakespeares wird bis in die Gegenwart verfolgt die Begrifflichkeit der Theatersprache ('Werktreue' 'Aktualisierung') und die Regiepraxis von Shakespeare-Regisseuren wie Peter Brook Trevor Nunn und Peter Hall werden einer kritischen Sichtung unterzogen.

AUTHORS' BIOGRAPHY

TRANSLATE

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When the Summary is not in English, a button 'Translate' appears (element 7 in image). When clicked, the translated version can be viewed (the translation is done automatically with a script):



Published in: 1988-07-01

SHAKESPEARE-INSZENIERUNGEN IN ENGLAND- DIE

«ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY» (1960-1982)

DIE ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY (1960-1982)

ISBN: 9783631404096

Author - Series Editor: Lahrmann Hartwig, Universität Münster,

Word Clouds

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SHAKESPEARE PRODUCTIONS IN ENGLAND - THE "ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY" (1960-1982)

THE ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY (1960-1982)

the starting point of the present work is the different treatment of dramatic literature in literary studies and in English and German-speaking theater space. the example of the royal shakespeare company shows to what extent the results of shakespeare research have found their way into the shakespeare reception of the theater. the staging history of shakespeare's dramas is traced up to the present day from the conceptionality of the theatrical language (faithfulness to the work updating) and the directing practice of shakespeare directors such as peter brook trevor nunn and peter hall are subjected to a critical review.

AUTHORS' BIOGRAPHY

ORIGINAL

Word Clouds

As one can see, each title page displays information under different tabs (*Word clouds*, *Summary*, *Table of contents*, *Overview* and *References*). By clicking on the tab 'word clouds' (element 8 in image), we can see two sections: *Most important words* and *Index terms*.



Published in: 2019-03-11

THE DARK SIDE OF MEDIA AND TECHNOLOGY

A 21ST CENTURY GUIDE TO MEDIA AND TECHNOLOGICAL LITERACY

ISBN: 9781433149030

Author - Series Editor: Downs Edward,

Word Clouds

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MOST IMPORTANT WORDS

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RECOMMENDATIONS

- [Downs Dark Side of Media & Technology](#)
- [DeFoster Terrorizing the Masses](#)
- [Matsaganis et.al. Communication Ecology](#)
- [Suher New Communication in the Post-Pandemic Era](#)
- [Hayes Sympathy for the Cyberbully](#)

The section 'most important words' contains the 50 most relevant words in the full text of the book, accompanied by their importance. This is calculated by selecting words that appear often in the book but that are not too common (so they do not appear in too many books). The words are shown in 'word clouds', where the most important words are bigger than the others.

INDEX TERMS

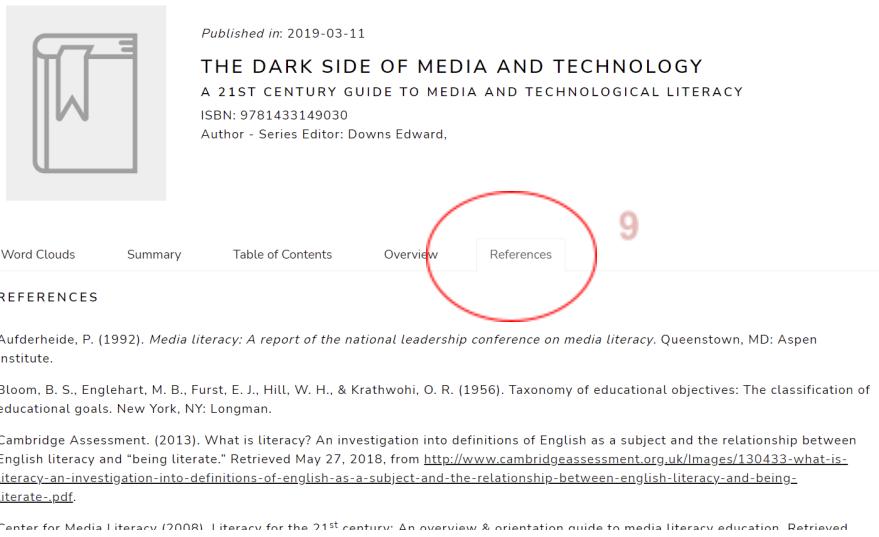


The second, ‘index terms’, contains the words that appear on the index page at the end of the book, with the number of times these words appear in the text. The size is determined by how often the word appears.

These two sections are meant to enrich the information provided in the Summary tab, which contains the Main Description. The first puts the attention on the main concepts and themes discussed in the book, the second more on the entities and notable people discussed.

Citations

Furthermore, by clicking on the tab 'References' (element 9 in image), we find the citations page at the end of the book.



- Downs Dark Side of Media & Technology
- DeFoster Terrorizing the Masses
- Matsaganis et al. Communication Ecology
- Suher New Communication in the Post-Pandemic Era
- Hayes Sympathy for the Cyberbully

When the citations in the E-book have links, these are preserved and can still be followed.

Using the citation, a final feature is extracted. When more than one of our books mentions the same author, this is suggested in *Mutual Citations* as below (element 10 in image):

The screenshot shows a book detail page for "MEDIA INTERVENTIONS". The page includes a thumbnail image of the book cover, publication details (Published in: 2012-06-30), and a list of recommendations. A red circle highlights the "MUTUAL CITATIONS" section, which lists a reference to Couldry's work. The number "10" is overlaid in the bottom right corner.

Published in: 2012-06-30

MEDIA INTERVENTIONS
AFTERWORD BY NICK COULDRY
ISBN: 9781433139772
Author - Series Editor: Howley Kevin,

RECOMMENDATIONS

- [Klaehn The Political Economy of Media](#)
- [Duhé New Media & Public Relations](#)
- [Goldman Black Women in Reality](#)
- [Hanen Communication and the Economy](#)

MUTUAL CITATIONS

Couldry, N. (2004). Theorizing media as practice. *Social Semiotics*, 14(2), 115-132.

- [Macnamara The 21st Century Media /2nd Ed.](#)

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Word Clouds Summary Table of Contents Overview References

REFERENCES

Atton, C. (2001). *Alternative media*. London, UK: Sage.

Barbrook, R. (1995). *Media freedom: The contradictions of communication in the age of modernity*. London, UK: Pluto Press.

Barnouw, E. (1990). *Tube of plenty: The evolution of American television* (2nd rev. ed.). New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

Baym, G. (2005). *The Daily Show*: Discursive integration and the reinvention of political journalism. *Political Communication*, 22(3), 259-276.

Bimber, B. (2003). *Information and American democracy: Technology in the evolution of political power*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.

Bourdieu, P. (1991). *Language and symbolic power*. Cambridge, MA: Polity Press.

For example, this book references Couldry (2004), which is also mentioned in Macnamara's book. With this feature, one can go directly to the other book which may, given the common citation, also discuss some specific topic of interest.